

May one beg Mr Jay, not to repeat the offence? It is as much to his



Secker &
Warburg

PM's papers

W. E. GLADSTONE:
Autobiographical
Edited by John Brooke and Mary Sorensen.
263pp. HMSO for Historical Manuscripts Commission. £4.

The collection of Prime Ministers' papers to be published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission opens, appropriately, with a selection from the Gladstone papers. No other Prime Minister left behind him such a vast collection of documents, clearly intended as evidence on which posterity might base a reasoned and informed judgment of his character and career. "To understand the nineteenth century, it is essential to understand Gladstone," wrote the editors in their introduction. "To understand Gladstone it is essential to have some knowledge of the Gladstone papers; hence the great importance of this publication."

The first volume consists of fragments of an unfinished autobiography; it is to be followed by three volumes of memoranda on current events. No one would quarrel with the editors' selection of material, except in the appendices, where forty valuable pages are devoted to an uninteresting early correspondence with an Estonian friend. One letter, instead of twenty-three, would have been adequate. The autobiographical pieces forming the bulk of this volume are by no means unknown; Morley printed long extracts from the earlier ones, and Sir Philip Magnus used the whole series freely and extensively. The introduction gives a vivid picture of the physical difficulties which beset their composition by a half-blind man in his eighties; but the general impression is one of undimmed and extraordinary mental energy. Here is a man lacking any natural literary gift, with a style so lurid and a manner of thought so convoluted that much of what he writes is all but unreadable. Yet here, unquestionably, is a great man.

The most interesting of the autobiographical writings are those dealing with Gladstone's last cabinet and his relations with Queen Victoria, papers which for obvious reasons Morley could neither use nor publish, and which Sir Philip has used

without quoting verbatim to any great extent. So, for example, he records Gladstone's preference for Spencer rather than Rosebery as his successor without giving Gladstone's reason: "He has decidedly more of the very important quality termed weight."

It is common knowledge that Queen Victoria's dislike, amounting almost to hatred, caused Gladstone much trouble and suffering. Knowing that he had served her loyally he tried to stifle regret and "to attain as nearly as I could to indifference in the matter". These papers make painfully clear that such indifference was impossible. Yet, although so bitterly hurt, he could still make an effort to understand and sympathize with her point of view; over and over again he tries to explain, to analyse, to excuse her behaviour. So, although smarting under the unkindness of that final interview in which she parted from him "without the slightest mark of personal respect and regard", he can still see in a cryptic message sent him through Ponsonby a sign of the "compassion due to her general kindness of nature".

Next in interest to the papers dealing with his last years are those concerned with religion. They form a useful addition to the *Correspondence on Church and Religion* edited by D. C. Lathbury. Religion was, of course, the motive power of Gladstone's life; the editors rightly describe him as "a statesman who consciously tried to apply the principles of Christianity to the practice of politics". Here, incidentally, is the first of the two serious omissions in Morley's great biography, which is of set purpose silent on the subject of Gladstone's religious views and feelings. Morley's second omission, admirably rectified by Sir Philip, lies in the almost total absence of any reference to Gladstone's private life. The only family letter included in this present selection is one to his father, dealing with his choice of a career, a letter described by Magnus as "of quite inordinate length and obscurity". Although a collection of Gladstone's letters to his wife has been edited by Arthur Ilsey Bassett, several still remain unpublished, one or two of these might have been worth printing here to illustrate an unusually attractive and not unimportant side of his personality.

Where there's muck...

DEREK HUDSON:
Munby: Man of Two Worlds
The Life and Diaries of Arthur J. Munby 1828-1910
461pp. John Murray. £5.

Arthur Munby was an Other Victorian: he provides a case-history of double standards less horrific than some but almost the more repulsive for that. At least a man attending a *maison de supplies* pays for his pleasures, while Munby got his for nothing or very little: the psychological *supplies* he bore being part of the entertainment he sought. At the theatre "to sit in the Gallery among the 'roughs' by the side of a mild-of-all-work, and drink with her out of the same bottle between the acts—is not this the very nadir of vulgarity and degradation?" For Munby, middle-class, middle-aged, a Cambridge graduate and official of the Ecclesiastical Commission, sought out working girls, not to seduce them, but as a voyeur to gaze at their grime: rough hands were his fetish. Seeing a country girl promoted to housemaid in London, he laments that her hands are now white and smooth: "Nelly, they were better when I saw them first, red with dipping in your pail."

Munby went about the country describing in his diary and making sketches of girls in the costumes they wore for their work, from the London milk-maidens to the Bondages (female farm-workers) of the Border and the flit-lasses of Yorkshire who wore boots and bloomers to climb the rocks for wrinkles and mussels. Sometimes he had himself photographed with them. It is a pity he missed out on the Bai maidens of the Cornish tin-mines.

For nineteen years Munby courted (if that is the word) a maid-servant called Hannah Cullwick, at length marrying her but without ever acknowledging the union. After a few years it was she who revolted, not

against being his servant, retiring to the kitchen after waiting on him and his friends, but against being his wife. At fifty she could no longer do with the occasions when he bought her ladies' clothes and took her on holidays to hotels. In her own words: "I should hate to be stuck up, an' dress fine, an' keep nesh and prim, an' talk affected, an' have soft hands, an' have company, an' all such as that. Eh, I wouldn't be a lady, not for a thousand pound."

Whether the marriage was ever consummated is not clear; in a letter to her husband—much more pungent than any of his own writing—Hannah says: "I think *desire* as you mentioned only comes to a woman as she chooses to indulge in it, & when I found how you was my darling I never thought of it."

To have acknowledged the marriage would have meant social death and Munby enjoyed a full social life on the fringe of various sets: at the Theodore Martins in Onslow Square, the Taylors at Aubrey House, the Pre-Raphaelites, the Radical Club circle of Ruskin and P. D. Maurice. He was expected to make a suitable marriage with Mary Severn, daughter of Joseph; he had a poem praised by Browning (as an author he rates an entry in the *DNB*); he was on terms of friendship with R. D. Blackmore, who called his fetish a "crotchet"; with William Ralston, the Russian scholar; and the Celticist, Whitley Stokes. When he records that he met Stokes "and his friend Fitzgibbon", could this be a mishearing of the name Fitzgerald, for it was Stokes who first brought *Omar Khayyam* to the notice of Rossetti and Swinburne (the sixpenny box story is, alas, apocryphal)?

Munby took Latin classes at the Working Men's College, transferring to the Women's College when that was opened, but disappointed there by the clearly condition of the pupils' hands.

This fetish for the horny hand links up, of course, with the ship of manual labour by Victorians. Munby should have been painted standing by a navvies in Madox Brown's "Work". He also had a taste for the fashionable at the same time, and one can't help noting that fairly self-congratulatory "tradition", "predecessors", "experience gleaned" over the claim made for him by Hudson, editor of his diaries, should be "remembered as a rous, quixotic idealist who in the thwarting the apartheid of a sex anticipated a century of advance Women's Liberation". In what way did he keep Hannah's nose to the stone all those years and prevent her from enjoying a normal life?

The diaries average 500 pages a year. They were begun in 1852 in the present-day Trinity College, Cambridge, and opened in 1952 in the present-day Munby family (but not of the wicks); they aroused some comment but were forgotten until Mr Hudson started writing them in 1968. No more than 100 pages of the diaries have been published; they are a treasure for the student of the English language, the student of the school's "intellectuals" (as it speaks of some-thing and does not bring any "light" to either the student or the events of the time). Munby was always there at His Majesty's, in the crowd, in the size and physical condition of the department have a lot to do with it, but so too have the "intellectuals" of the senior members. The staff-student ratio can sometimes be as comfortable as one to nine, and it was often stressed to me that the department's "atmosphere" derived in some large measure from

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University of Liverpool

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

this disarming cordiality, but even Liverpool has been obliged to grow rather more rapidly than it would have liked. At one time the aim was to restrict the English entry to forty students a year, but the figure has now crept up to fifty-five. The limit over the next quinquennium is an entry of sixty; i.e. 180 undergraduates altogether. In addition there are some thirty postgraduate students, half full-time, half part-time, and the English department teaches about fifty undergraduate students in Combined Studies (the old Pass or General Degree). Of the fifty-five Honours students accepted each year, perhaps ten or twelve will be reading Joint Honours (mainly English/History, English/Philosophy, English/French, and occasionally English/Latin). The staff-student ratio can sometimes be as comfortable as one to nine, and it was often stressed to me that the department's "atmosphere" derived in some large measure from

the fact that all Honours students are taught during their three years by all members of staff. Nobody is landed with a single tutor for the majority of his work, and on certain courses (in particular, the Practice Criticism, or, as it is called, "Varieties of English Style" course) a student can see up to four tutors in a single year.

Liverpool's character can perhaps most conveniently be judged by its treatment of the Anglo-Saxon question; a question which, though it is still simmering, seems to have created nothing like the animosity (and comedy) it has provoked in other quarters. From the traditional, hard-line philological grind once watched over by Simeon Potter, the Language element has gradually not just been whittled down but has also been persuaded to adopt more literary objectives. This has come about, I was told, "by hard trading", but at least it was by trade, not combat. As

things stand now, there is still at Liverpool a thriving Language department, but its professor (J. E. Cross) and most of his staff take great pains to insist that its heart is in the right place.

Basically, the compromise reached between the Literature and Language departments has been assisted by the provision of a large number of Language options. The Language men have allowed a reduction of the compulsory load. Thus, although a student who dislikes Anglo-Saxon still has to do a compulsory first year, he can steer clear of vowel shifts altogether in his second and third years (in the second year there is a compulsory Middle English paper and in the third a compulsory Chaucer). On the other hand if by chance he has developed a taste for ancient phonemes he can choose Old Norse and Medieval Welsh as his two second-year options and progress from there to, say,

Comparative Philology and some more Old Norse in his "Chaucer year". There are apparently enough takers for these options to make the system work quite happily, and although the English School's bonhomie could not disguise the continuing presence of the old rivalries it is unlikely that the literature department will press for more concessions in the near future. After all, the only meaningful concession left to be made is the one which the Language men would be suicidal to permit: i.e. the abolition of the compulsory first-year paper. As long as that stays, the current truce will remain smilingly intact.

Which is bad news for a lot of the students I spoke to, particularly students from the first year (second and third-year people had a bit of that complacency and retrospective wisdom that used to characterize demobbed National Servicemen—"I hated it but I'm glad now that I did it"). Some of these were bitter about the whole notion and method of teaching Old English grammar; they felt that a year was not long enough for them to get near to mastering the subject and that they were therefore obliged to become uncomprehending parrots. It was also complained that there were too many lectures and too few tutorials and that they were taking notes most of the time on material they did not really follow and had no way of getting explained to them. Another complaint, implying sinister cunning to the syllabus-makers, was that any detailed study of Old English poetry could be reached only in the second year, by selecting the appropriate option. The first year could therefore be seen as groundwork for a study which most of them would not choose to pursue. "It's not as if we translate poetry," one first-year student lamented. "We translate historical documents." This view was supported by one or two second-year students who claimed that the transition from first-year Old English to second-year Middle English left too many gaps—gaps which only the selection of a second-year

Campaigning for companionship

EDNA NIXON:
Mary Wollstonecraft
271pp. Dent. £3.50.

A story such as Edna Nixon has to tell can prompt any number of lively morals. Mary Wollstonecraft was the eldest of five children. Her father was a drunken farmer, who ill-treated her submissive mother. At fifteen, Mary resolved never to marry. She somehow kept the family together and at the same time contrived to educate herself. She taught herself French and German and read the "advanced" literature of her day. She began to notice things that her contemporaries missed. If, like Catherine Morland, she was disgusted with the fashionable world at Bath, as a servant she saw the social inequalities too, and was enraged by them.

After a time as a governess in Ireland, she wrote *Thoughts on the Education of Daughters*, which was accepted for publication by Joseph Johnson. Johnson was for Mary Wollstonecraft what George Chapman was later for George Eliot. He took her into his home, gave her confidence in her ability to write, and introduced her to the leading intellectuals of the left: Voltaire, Paine, Godwin, Holcroft, Blake and Fustel. (The parallel with George Eliot can be pushed further: Mary wrote articles and translated from French and German scientific and philosophical books for Johnson's recently-founded *Analytical Review*, as George Eliot did for Chapman's recently-purchased *Westminster Review*.)

In the ten years before her early death, Mary published an autobiographical novel, called *Mary* (which is listed for republication in the "Oxford English Novels" series), rushed out (*with a month's delay*) a reply to Burke's *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, and wrote

two books on the situation of women, as well as a history of the French Revolution—she was in Paris during the Terror—and an engaging travel book about her experiences in Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

Unhappy in love, first with Henry Fuseli and later with Gilbert Imray (by whom she had a daughter), Mary at last found happiness—and marriage—with the philosopher Godwin. She died giving birth to their child, who later became Mary Shelley.

Mrs Nixon tells this story with directness and feeling. She is sympathetic to Mary's ideas, which were remarkably advanced. She advocated sex education and comprehensive education. Above all she believed that "Marriage will never be held sacred till women by being brought up with men are prepared to be their companions rather than their mistresses."

Mary's ideas did not catch on, and she was like the other radical idealists of the time. Some were adopted by John Stuart Mill in *The Subjection of Women* (there is no ascertainable debt, but Mill had presumably read at least Godwin's *Memoirs of the Author of the Vindication of the Rights of Woman*). Some of her ideas are still topical.

Mrs Nixon's main emphasis, however, is on Mary's personality. She does not make the comparison, but the reader of her account of Mary's sad affair with Gilbert Imray is reminded irresistibly of Marianne and Willoughby in *Sense and Sensibility*. Although she was severely on the side of rationalism in her controversy with Burke, in her life she preferred "the promptings of nature" to "the starchy rules of decorum" and threw herself away on an adonis. This episode of painful humiliation, as Mary struggled to "conquer" from her better judgment her knowledge of Imray's

worthlessness, is handled with tact by Mrs Nixon.

Mrs Nixon's subtitle is "and times", and she does not put very firmly on the record of this conjunction. The two are haphazard and independent. Blake's *Marginal Notes* to *Wollstonecraft's Discourses* are quoted as secondary source, garbled and misunderstood. (Students of Blake should be warned that Blake was a friend of Sir Joshua Reynolds, the two artists sometimes exchanged views on the function of their work.) Her own chronology is shaky: "the age of the French Enlightenment" would be found in Hume's treatise; *Leviathan* was not one of the "dominant spirits" of the Enlightenment. The account of the French Revolution is more Hollywood than history—the Girondins all escaped and good feeling the last all-thrilling fur blood-bath.

Simone de Beauvoir's *memoirs of Old Age* (reviewed in the TLS 18, 1970) now appears in an edition translated by Patrick O'Malley, a format whose handsomeness the French paper binding of André Deutsch in association with Weidenfeld and Nicolson. True, the price is almost £2.00, but it is a masterpiece of editing. The first reading is a masterpiece of research, exhaustively researched, exhaustively researched, and its very comprehensiveness and lucidity the kind of thing found, variously, in Peter de Vries or in Muriel Spark when dealing with the same subject.

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on proust

Jean-François Revel
Translated by Martin Turnell

Price £2.50

What were Proust's politics? Was he a snob, or a mortal enemy of snobbery? Does he imply anything to say to us on the nature of time, memory, and artistic creation—or does his real genius lie elsewhere? Revel's incisive and illuminating book has judgements on Proust which may not conform, but are never less than persuasive.

Hamish Hamilton



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Commentary

It seems that Dr Husák's regime in Prague, having completely silenced the majority of Czech writers and banned their books, has now embarked on a campaign of denigration directed both against the many Czech writers in exile and those living in Czechoslovakia. Propagandists engaged in the campaign do not stop short of the most fantastic concoctions: thus Prague radio in a recent commentary claimed that Josef Skvorecký plagiarized *The Catcher in the Rye* in his novel *The Cowards*, which was to disregard the fact that the latter had been written three years before J. D. Salinger's novel was published in the United States and that the two books do not have very much in common.

More serious is the call raised recently by Jiff Hájek, the editor of the party weekly journal *Tvorba* (and the only cultural magazine in a country that used to boast dozens of them), for measures to be taken against writers who have allowed their works to be published abroad and have given interviews to foreign publishers and journalists. "The benevolence of our society has been exhausted," wrote Hájek, "and beyond a certain point this kind of benevolence would look too much like foolishness. . . . This, and a subsequent similar attack, was provoked mainly by the publication late last year by Bucher Verlag (it seems and Frankfurt) of five books by contemporary Czech writers at present blacklisted in their own country, among them Ivan Klíma and Jindřich Vaculík. Vaculík's writing in particular is constantly being ridiculed as mere gibberish by *Tvorba* since Bucher published his haunting allegorical novel *The Guinea Pigs*, which conveys the nightmarish aspects of a life lived in conditions of total irrationality.

Bucher have also produced a booklet containing telephone interviews with the five writers. What emerges from them does not quite support *Tvorba*'s claim that the banned writers "lead comfortable and undisturbed lives such as few people lead in our country"; Alexander Kliment, as it happens, now works as a night porter in an hotel, Ivan Klíma as a hospital cleaner. But they do not complain of their new circumstances. Klíma pointing out that the experience of modern authors tends in any case to become more and more restricted. However, judging by the present climate in Prague, there is little hope that any new books based on this enlarged experience will become available in the West. Czechoslovak writers are required by law to deal with foreign publishers through a state-controlled literary agency, but the agency is under no obligation to accept them as clients.

Special birthday greetings went yesterday to Martin Secker, who at ninety is a year senior to Sir Compton Mackenzie, whose first novel, *The Passionate Elopement*, he published more than sixty years ago. Failing eyesight has not been allowed to dim Martin Secker's passionate enthusiasm for books and literature, and, spy and alert, with a quite remarkable memory, he can recall with relishing a much more individual, even bookish, affair than it is now. He began on his own in 1910, and

the importance of his list was never related to the size of his premises. From his small office in the Adelphi came a flow of distinctive books—distinctive in typography as well as in the talents of their authors. Besides that of Compton Mackenzie, the early work of Hugh Walpole, Frank Swinnerton, Arthur Ransome, Gilbert Cannan, Oliver Onions, Norman Douglas and Viola Meynell appeared under the Secker imprint. There is cause for pride, too, in the fact that D. H. Lawrence published all his work between 1921 and his death in 1930 with Martin Secker. Nor was a publisher as he an insular Englishman. He introduced in English translation Thomas Mann, Arnold Zweig and Gerhart Hauptmann and other Continental writers.

In the 1920s and 1930s, then, Martin Secker pursued his own bookish path, publishing the books he wanted to publish and not always wholly mindful of the financial hazards involved. Difficulties cropped up and in 1935 the firm was reconstructed as Secker & Warburg. Two years later Martin Secker broke away to found The Unicorn Press which later linked up with Phoenix House.

A couple of years ago, to dispel any notion that his active publishing days were over, Martin Secker published privately limited editions of the letters written to him by D. H. Lawrence between 1911 and 1930 and his own letters to D. H. Lawrence and others written between 1911 and 1929.

His friends, picturing him reading their affectionate birthday congratulations and greetings in his first edition-studded study in Buckinghamshire, may well wonder what the next publishing venture will be and what next will emerge from the chest that recently gave us the unpublished poem by Flecker printed in the TLS last December.

Pedantism: What is bad poetry? Coprophilius: To answer that, Pedant-

cus, must we not ascertain the nature of poetry herself? After not very much of this toiling droolery, the divertingly named editions of *Pegasus Descending* (238pp, Collier Books, 90p), James Camp, Keith Waldrop and Xerox Kennedy, go on to give a wide selection of excellent exorable verse, interspersed with sneaky notes and comments that are funny, elegant and quite extraordinarily learned.

There is some predictable drubbing of certain major poets well-known pedestrianisms from the *senilia* of Wordsworth and Hardy, tremulous posturing from early Keats and Tennyson. But the book's real strength is the way the editors close pitilessly in on the ostentatiously, irretrievably minor. For example: James McIntyre's lyrical tribute to a four-ton prize cheese: J. W. Scholl's affecting lament on the decline of breast-feeding; or the anonymous "Ode to a Ditch. Respectfully Dedicated to the Town Commissioners". We are given extracts from the innovative submarine pastorals (*Piscatorial Eclogues*) of William Diaper ("In fact", the editors ingeniously remark, "after Diaper, the genre has had no known practitioners"). And you can now familiarize yourself with the work of Lizzie Dolan, the celebrated nineteenth-century mystic, who transcribed poems dictated to her from the hereafter by such poets as Burns and Shakespeare—one of whose brand-new soliloquies begins: "O World! somewhat I have to say to thee." Clearly, the editors have little sympathy for the hum-listed wordsmiths of yesterday, nor for their unwary appreciators: William Falconer's *The Shipwreck* (1762) "was compared favourably with the *Aeneid*, but its reputation has declined"; Falconer was lost at sea seven years later.

Bad verse can be painful for the poetry-lover. As Dryden said of Cleveland: "We cannot read a verse without making a face at it, as if every word were a pill to swallow." Or, as the anonymous editor of a

collection of Julia Moore's sonnets, she "not only conveys emotion, but she brings us up to date. We look round quickly to see if we made the noise, and feel for our money and our watch. . . . This is a kind of thrilling, hot-foot ransment. Take, for example, stanza from William Moore: 'The great Scotch catanawho who must take the bays for delicacy, a deep realizing and a faintness of rhythmic'."

Alas! I'm very sorry to say that ninety lives have been lost. On the last Sabbath of 1879. Which will be remembered in . . .

Not all book fairs are as pragmatic as Frankfurt, and not the World Book Fair was in Delhi last Sunday. It is business, washed down with hard stuff, then Delhi was a good place for the fairground. Place could not afford such books, even those being per cent off, but they were adding their names to the glossier hand-outs. They browse without being perceived the assistants who patrolled in Indian bookshops.

For once, the British were the best exhibitors from abroad, twenty publishers, and then more sense in their being there than other foreign exhibitors since it is the only foreign language that Indians know. But the hub of whole affair was perhaps the "Millions". Some speakers, dictating, took the line but meant paperbacks, and the better; others the more line that relevance to Indian outwitted mere cheapness. The identity of the book "millions", they, as the organizer had it, were "millions".

This is the concluding volume of the correspondence of George IV as Prince of Wales, edited by A. Aspinall. It can only repeat, as has been said in these columns in each volume as it was published, that the work is historically important and that it is fortified throughout by the highest standards of scholarship. In his foreword to the volumes of George IV's correspondence as Regent and King which were in 1938, Sir Charles Aspinall referred to Professor Aspinall's exceptional knowledge of the papers of those days—both dated and undated—which he used to guide the reader through many passages which would have remained otherwise obscure.

Here and there readers may feel a sense of regret that Professor Aspinall has not drawn their attention to the older books which contain important printed letters to or from the King. The letters of Sir Robert Taylor, which were published in 1913, and the memoirs of William Knight published in 1928 are both relevant here. Professor Aspinall sometimes alludes to earlier printed sources and draws attention to errors in them. The reader might have been given a summary of the correspondence, stretching back at least to the reign of George III, and the point is trifling when the King's letters are so plentiful in perspective against the misadventure of the whole.

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Lady Herford depicted in a cartoon of 1812 as Delhi snipping the royal curls.

The Prince's post-bag

A. ASPINALL (Editor):
The Correspondence of George, Prince of Wales 1770-1812
Volume 8: 1811-1812
577pp. Cassell, £10.50.

Perceval in office, and the struggle over Catholic Emancipation at the end of his life. Professor Aspinall would probably agree that the letters on these subjects confirm and underline the power of the Crown. There are no startling revelations though there are, often enough, those trifling touches which lend vitality to what is familiar. For example, it is interesting to learn that George IV recognized a natural son who was "an officer in the East Indies" to whom he thought himself bound to give a legacy of £30,000. The benevolence was handsome but we are left wondering whether the officer was amazed by his father's remembrance and whether his parentage was generally known at the time.

For the substitution of reality for fiction, for the removal of tales which the Victorians liked to believe, all who are concerned with history must be lastingly grateful to Professor Aspinall. Above all his text removes the wrappings of a later generation. We have only to remember what was generally believed about the orgies at the Pavilion and then to contrast this with what the King himself writes: "It amounted almost to insipidity." But even in Professor Aspinall old prejudices die hard, and in the future picture of the King which emerges he shows himself a non-believer. Here is an example. "The Prince is describing for Lord Wellesley, who was a private friend, an interview which he had had with the Prime Minister who had suggested Addington as Home Secretary. In telling the story to Wellesley he dropped into Latin to express his incredulity at the suggestion: 'Profero Aspinall comments that this was most improbable, hinting that the Prince had no command of the ancient tongues. That is unjust. In a much later letter the King, writing to Wellesley, makes a neat quotation from Horace and refers to him as 'our old friend'. There is other evidence that the King, as was true of most intelligent and educated men at that time, had a reasonable knowledge of the classics."

George IV will always be vulnerable to those who come after, because he was gifted with a sense of humour. His letters to his family, and to the ladies whom he admired, are playful in the extreme, so that it is not always easy to tell when he is joking or serious. A few months after Waterloo he is describing in a letter to Lady Herford a conversation which he had with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He writes that the Chancellor told him that the revenue of the country exceeds by "many, many, many millions that of any former year ever yet known." The figures are obviously bogus. "The figures are obviously bogus," were they? In 1815 the gross total for the revenue was £19,500,000. This was three million higher than the previous year, 18 million higher than in 1813 and to go no further back—32 million higher than in 1812. The financial year ended then in January, and it is reasonable to believe that the Chancellor knew roughly how the total was going to work out. The Prince goes on to say that he could not help proposing to the Chancellor that this wonderful balance should be transferred "to my private coffer in consideration of my exertions and all that I have done for my country as well as the whole world." (He is here alluding to his exertions against Napoleon; he was fond of saying, "I set them all to work.") Professor Aspinall approvingly comments: "A most extraordinary suggestion, now revealed for the first time." But it is an obvious jest, as he goes on to apologize a few sentences later "for all my scribbling and garrulity."

On this personal side a point in explanation of the Prince's unpopularity must also be made. As was true of all the Hanoverian dynasty he was more outspoken about people than was prudent. We have only to enjoy the pages of Hervey to sense George III's prowess in this direction. George III, long before he was mad, showed unwise curiosity about people—for example, how Lord Lothian managed his pig-tail at night. George IV was equally careless in things which he said about people. "Lord Wellesley is a Spanish grandee grafted on an Irish potato"—and, as we now learn, also in what he wrote about them: "I hope my friend Miss Finch has not fancied herself of late, either a hare or a glass-bottle." The great Dr Parr he described as a "not unentertaining beast, for notwithstanding all his learning and talents I can not help in other respects considering him as a very great brute". George IV had what is unusual in a sovereign, and is perhaps a misfortune, and that was a constant curiosity about individuals, amusement at their foibles, and a desire which he would not or could not control to pass on to others what struck him as laughable. He was the most formal and splendid of recent rulers, but the position never crisscrossed the man, for he remains among the most human of British sovereigns. That is the first point which is proved over and over again by his correspondence.

The second point is more historically important than any question of personality. What have the letters to show us of the real power enjoyed by the King? A subsidiary but not unimportant point may be made here. George I and George II had enjoyed power in foreign politics because of their foothold in Germany. Frederick the Great once asked: "Is the King of England one person or two?" The answer was that the Elector and the King were one but that the Electorate gave the King power in the Kingdom. Professor D. B. Horn has pointed out that George III "lacked his grandfather's interest in Hanover", and he seems even to have contemplated the abandonment of Hanover to Prussia in return for that country's cooperation against Napoleon. Although George IV was in Hanover only once—his father never went—he did something to retrieve the influence which Hanover brought to the British crown. If George III gloried in being an Englishman, his son gloried also in being a Brunswick. He organized an immense fireworks display in the London parks on August 1, 1814, to mark the centenary of the accession of his family to the English throne, which he defined in a proclamation as "one of the greatest thrones in the world."

On two particular occasions the political power of the King was conspicuous. The first was his decision to keep his father's ministers in 1811, and the second was his decision to keep them in office after the restoration of the Regency expired in the following year. It was a decision which was soundly criticized by the

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Oxford University Press

State coach versus Cadillac

KENNETH BRADSHAW and DAVID PRING:
Parliament and Congress
426pp. Constable, £4.50.

No institution submits itself to more searching and continuous criticism than the British Parliament; and it is refreshing to find a work which approaches this well-worn subject by a side path which leads from Washington, where the authors made excellent use of a grant from the Ford Foundation. Their purpose in comparing the faults and strengths of the parliamentary systems in the United States and the United Kingdom is carried out with skill and discretion. The authors are themselves professionally employed as Clerks in the House of Commons, enjoying many intimate links with their counterparts who serve Congress, and with these advantages they quite fairly claim to have penetrated many dark corners of congressional habits and practices.

Parliament and Congress is a serious institutional study, uncoloured by the tedious gossip and faulty recollection of the run of political observers. With realism bordering on the cynical the first chapter deals not as is customary with leadership—a relatively neglected attribute in the standard descriptions of Parliament. Equally to point is the early reminder that parliamentary government at Westminster should not convey the implication that "Parliament governs"; Parliament does not and cannot.

In their studies of leadership, Kenneth Bradshaw and David Pring have indisputably shown the personal sides in which Ivor Jennings was free to indulge. They cannot, for example, be frank about the essential factors in leadership of the House. These are affability in the

Lobby and "getting the House up" in good time. Neither of these attainments requires exceptional strength of purpose beyond an inclination to get to bed at a reasonable hour. By this standard—and indeed by any other—R. A. Butler was the greatest Leader of the House in living memory, for under his governance the House habitually rose at 11 p.m. By the same standard Richard Crossman was the least successful, for he favoured the dreadful hangover known as "morning sickness". Those were sessions in which the House, having heard the chiming of midnight, was expected after a short suspension to resume oratory at 10 a.m.

The perpetual comparisons throughout the book give it an undoubted liveliness. Our own Speaker's state coach, used on ceremonial occasions only, is compared with the Cadillac and chauffeur, which the American Speaker employs every day. The Speaker of the House of Representatives has the duty of a party leader, and in the twilight zone, a large area exists where he has many opportunities to apply the rules to his party's advantage.

The importance of the American Speaker as a "fixer" on political party matters gives him a back-ground of influence which British Speakers must sometimes envy; on the other hand their impartiality is inevitably less suspect. Lord Rosebery's well-remembered advice to Queen Victoria would hardly apply to Congress, when he wrote:

"There is much exaggeration about the attainments requisite for a Speaker. All Speakers are highly successful. All Speakers are deeply respected, and generally announced to be irrefragable. But a Speaker is soon found, and found, although invariably, among the mediocrities of the House."

drawn. In the American House of Representatives, its first business after the Speaker's election is to decide whether the Clerk of the House should continue in office or not; while in the Commons the Clerk of the House continues not only from generation to generation but from century to century—"a necessary evil", as Sir Edward Peel once observed, "which Members had better get used to."

In recent months violence in the field of politics has been noticed by publicists as if it were a new cult. In fact each of these democratic institutions has suffered wilful destruction in times past. The House of

Commons regarded the burning of its Chamber by the Germans in 1941 as barbaric; a reminder of the American House of Representatives was burned by the British in 1844 was too apposite to require rebuke. Chamber four times the size of the Commons, the United States House of Representatives has survived many passages which would have remained otherwise obscure.

Here and there readers may feel a sense of regret that Professor Aspinall has not drawn their attention to the older books which contain important printed letters to or from the King. The letters of Sir Robert Taylor, which were published in 1913, and the memoirs of William Knight published in 1928 are both relevant here. Professor Aspinall sometimes alludes to earlier printed sources and draws attention to errors in them. The reader might have been given a summary of the correspondence, stretching back at least to the reign of George III, and the point is trifling when the King's letters are so plentiful in perspective against the misadventure of the whole.

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Not enough power to go round

C. J. LOWE and M. L. DOCKRILL:
The Mirage of Power

Volume 1: British Foreign Policy 1902-14. 168 plus xiv pp.

Volume 2: British Foreign Policy 1914-22. pp169-422 plus xvi pp.

Volume 3: The Documents. British Foreign Policy 1902-22. pp423-759 plus xvii pp.

Routledge and Kegan Paul, £9.50 the set.

Nothing is easier than for historians to find fault with any country's foreign policy. The historian has the advantage over the Foreign Minister both in what he knows and in what he can, if he chooses, ignore. The policy-maker is like a man playing chess on a dozen boards—with the double disadvantage of being unable to see his opponents' pieces and being obliged to make identical moves on each board. The historian, on the other hand, knows—or if he does not, he should not be writing history—what was taking place on the other side and what happened in the end. He perhaps does not know, or does not give his full attention to, the extradiplomatic constraints operating on the Foreign Minister: the pressures of colleagues more interested in other matters, the domestic issues, the contradictory advice, the availability of resources, electoral politics, private anxieties and experiences.

The school of censorious diplomatic historians, who give no heed to such constraints, is happily less fashionable than it once was. C. J. Lowe and M. L. Dockrill do not belong to it. They show a sympathetic understanding of their subjects' limitations, and a modest awareness of their own. Their work amounts to more than a careful

summary of the course of British foreign policy in the twenty years between 1902 and 1922. For one thing, it includes the fruits of a good deal of original research among unpublished documents. For another, it shows an understanding of the springs of human conduct that goes well beyond the surface of the documents. It contains, in particular, a most valuable reassessment of Sir Edward Grey, who was Foreign Secretary for more than half the period, from December 1905 to December 1916. In a sense, indeed, he is the only Foreign Secretary the authors have to deal with; those who shared the rest of the period—Lansdowne, Balfour, even Curzon—played only a small part in determining policy.

The authors are more generous to Grey than many of their predecessors. They justify the secret negotiations with the French, arguing that these did not decisively commit the British government to going to war with France in 1914, and that in any case it is false to describe them as undertaken behind the back of the Cabinet. The defence can be challenged, and it perhaps indicates a lack of conviction when the authors also offer certain excuses. Grey was relatively inexperienced, they point out, and he was surrounded by strong-minded officials who were often in sharp disagreement with each other. (It was only later that Grey acquired the confidence to overrule them and insist on having his own way—not always with happy results.) He was also handicapped by being in the throes of a General Election, which exceptionally (at least for the twentieth century) immediately followed, rather than preceded, the formation of the Liberal government of 1905. What the authors do not mention is that at the beginning of February 1906, Grey lost his wife in a fatal accident.

Because he held office for such a long time and because public interest in foreign policy was steadily growing, it is possible to follow closely both the evolution of Grey's ideas and the influences exercised upon them. As the prospect of war drew closer, the main interest of British foreign policy shifted from the Empire to Europe; within Europe it revolved round the two poles of Germany and France. In this phase, Grey was strongly influenced by his officials, most of whom were pro-French, with a vocal minority also pro-Russian. The

attention given by the authors to the personalities and opinions of these officials is particularly valuable. Up to the outbreak of war, the officials clearly had more influence over the Foreign Secretary than Parliament or public opinion or even his ministerial colleagues. After 1914, there came a change, partly because the outbreak of war was itself evidence of a failure in British foreign policy, and partly because other Ministers—particularly Lloyd George and Churchill—were taking an increasingly vigorous interest in the subject. After Grey left office, Lloyd George, then Prime Minister, functioned virtually as his own Foreign Secretary, and the permanent officials of the Foreign Office were relegated to a secondary role.

By the end of the First World War, thanks to a more alert press and the energetic lobbying of a few men like E. D. Morel, the public was beginning to assert itself in the making of foreign policy. At the end of the previous century, as the authors put it in the context of Anglo-American relations, "public opinion obligingly followed the dictates of sheer necessity for Britain". Twenty years later, after suffering unexampled personal losses and hardship as a result of diplomatic miscalculations, the public was not so obliging. Trade Unionists and Members of Parliament began to demand a say in the making of policy, and finally refused to tolerate, in the one case, the anti-Bolshevik intervention in Russia, and in the other, the threat of renewed war with Turkey for the sake of the Greeks. Neither of these catastrophic ventures was in any way the fault of the Foreign Office or even of the Foreign Secretary: they were the fault of Churchill and Lloyd George respectively. But it was little to the credit of two successive Foreign Secretaries, Balfour and Curzon, that they allowed

themselves to be completely taken in by their grasp. Over the twenty years covered by these volumes, it is only in the first decade that a reasonable case can be made for British foreign policy. Although there were errors of judgment in the final stages that led to the outbreak of war, they were venial compared to the blunders perpetrated from 1914 onwards, particularly in the Middle East. The difference is that in the first period policy-making was in the hands of well-informed and level-headed, if somewhat unimaginative, men, with a strong sense of history but little of

the future that was almost upon them; whereas, in the later period, policies were tossed around by enthusiastic amateurs who seldom told each other what they were doing. It is obvious why British foreign policy failed from 1914 onwards, and the authors competently perform the melancholy but not too difficult task of explaining it. But it is a more delicate task to explain why it failed, in a quite different way and for different reasons, in the preceding decade.

The clue is offered by the title: *The Mirage of Power*. Because British power has declined so dramatically since 1945, it is easy to exaggerate its extent at the zenith. The truth is, as the authors show, that it was always over-extended, even when it seemed to be most absolute. Even if it is no longer fashionable to believe that the British people acquired an Empire in a fit of absent-mindedness, it is certain that they acquired most of it against the wishes of successive British governments. Gladstone and Salisbury had at least this in common: they regarded colonies as an expensive and undesirable encumbrance. The trouble was that businessmen, missionaries, soldiers and freebooters were determined to leave them no choice; and once responsibility had been accepted for India, perhaps there was no choice. A recurrent theme of *The Mirage of Power* is that of the constraints imposed on British foreign policy by the exigencies of India. They were increased and perhaps exaggerated by strong Viceroy-like Curzon and Hardinge (a former head of the Foreign Office), who had personal influence at the centre of government.

The extent to which British resources were overstretched was already apparent in the Boer War, the end of which marks the opening date of *The Mirage of Power*. Ministers could still not rule out the possibility of war with the United States. The penetration of Central Asia by the Russians and of Africa by the French might equally lead to hostilities; and the threat of war with Germany became yearly more dangerous. It was impossible for the British government to confront all these dangers simultaneously; hence the treaty with Japan and the gradual regularization of good relations with the United States, France and Russia. But still it was only a mirage of power which upheld the "Pax Britannica". It is interesting to speculate at what date Britain ceased to be capable of pursuing an

entirely independent foreign policy. Grey perhaps sensed it in 1905, when he returned under duress to office. George and persisted in his policy. Exactly half a century later, Grey came into office, and finally dissolved on the Suez Canal.

The illusion of power may seem ridiculous in retrospect. Professor Lowe and Mr Dockrill draw a sympathetic and comprehensive picture of the age. Many of the events are as remote as ancient Greek, the Berlin-Baghdad railway, the grotesque plans for partitioning Turkey. Others are still with us. Russian ambitions in the Balkans, for instance, and the failure of Portugal's overseas empire. Failure to understand foreign policy is also a perennial problem. The very loose ideas of honesty and foreign statesmen have, since 1922, the Russians were on the French treacherous, the British discredited, the Serbs wretched, the conduct of the Japanese in 1941 "not cricket between allies", so unperturbed were the French to their Prime Minister in an actually fell from office because played golf with Lloyd George. Most inexcusable of all, a keen desire, which preoccupied the soul of the majority of Greeks to come to the rescue of a winning side. They should know better.

It is easy to extract such items from the mass of pages which British statesmen and officials recorded their thoughts at the time. The documents on which the authors have drawn are not for most part formal state papers, many of them are quite modest. Their weight is spread unevenly: the different aspects of foreign policy, so that the third volume, which contains the documents, in any sense the sole support of the first two, which summarize the course of policy. Volume two is a fact substantially more fully documented than volume one, in which there are no documents at all to support the chapter on Anglo-American relations. In consequence, the difference of degree between the two volumes is not as great as the difference of degree between the two volumes in this respect: have sought for possible means of encouraging the Arts as the key to national survival. Quebec, particularly since the establishment of its Society of Cultural Affairs in 1961, intelligently and dynamically introduced its culture in all fields. The first number of *Culture vivante*, the Ministry's journal, launched in 1963 by the late Pierre Laporte, clearly the motives behind this cultural support for the Arts:

AVENARD: *Le Québec et le Canada français* (Éditions de l'Université de Montréal, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 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Books received

Art

BOYD, ARTHUR. *Echings and Lithographs*. Unnumbered pages plus 114 illustrations. Lund Humphries, £5.25.

Illustrates the entire graphic work of this leading Australian artist from 1962 to 1969, except his St Francis lithographs for the book by T. S. R. Boase on the saint. Etchings, dry-points and lithographs are arranged in two groups of reproductions, 1962-63, dealing with themes treated earlier in his painting, and 1968-69, more violent in imagery, giving swift notations of ideas. Five plates in the latter series are devoted to the legend of the pioneer aviator Bert Hinkler. The gap of several years between the two groups of graphic works is accounted for by the artist's concentration during that period on paintings and pastels.

Biography and Memoirs

FRISCHAUER, WILLI. *David Frost*.

248pp. Michael Joseph, £2.20. "David was just outgrowing his King's Road apartment and looking around for a house in a more entrepreneurial district," says Willi Frischauer as he sets out on Chapter 8. This single sentence is typical of them all. The book is an unashamedly admiring study of television's bright boy and combines a biographical outline with an account of his crowded life in Britain and the United States.

PEACOCK, A. J. and JOY, DAVID. *George Hudson of York*. 96pp. Clapham: Dalesman Books. Paperback, 60p.

This study of Hudson does not claim to be another biography of the nineteenth-century "Railway King" but is, in its authors' words, an attempt to penetrate the Hudson myth and examine in detail the background to his corruption and downfall. It explores the shady political dealings which in the 1830s and 40s made Hudson the virtual dictator of York: "When he used the same methods in business... and when the dividends went down... the writing was on the wall." The book, whose illustrations include several contemporary cartoons, is also of interest as a chapter of railway history.

Crime

HEPPENSTALL, RAYNER. *Bluebeard and After*. Three Decades of Murder in France. 198pp plus 10 plates. Peter Owen, £3.25.

Rayner Heppenstall has already written two books on the history of crime in France—*A Little Pattern of French Crime* (1969) and *French Crime in the Romantic Age* (1970)—each of which was characterized by originality of design. *Bluebeard and After* is formally less ambitious. It is concerned with twentieth-century cases, mostly between the world wars, and inevitably introduces some French names, notably Landru and Mathieu. Confessions of murder, that strange, numerous progeny of De Quincey's, will enjoy the sophistication, in common with the two earlier books it is enriched by the author's keen sense of France and his exceptional understanding of the French criminal process.

Economics

MURRAY, ROBIN UCS. *The Anatomy of Bankruptcy*. 83pp. Nottingham: The Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation. Paperback, 50p.

Robin Murray questions "the clumsy logic of the market system as it relates to bankruptcy" and illustrates his argument by an account of what happened to Upper Clyde Shipbuilders. "For from promising increased social efficiency," he writes, "bankruptcy promises merely to restore the rule of profit on private capital by transfers from other parts

of society." In a chapter on "Workers Control versus Market Rationality", the author contrasts what happened to UCS with the results of workers' control at a Yugoslav shipyard.

Education

DICKINSON, RICHARD D. N. *The Christian College in Developing India*. 370pp. Oxford University Press, £6.

This is the third and last volume of a detailed inquiry into the present utility and future function of Christian colleges in India which arose out of a joint Roman Catholic/World Council of Churches interest in evaluating what the various Christian Churches were doing in helping forward progressive activities in the developing countries. Like the two previous studies with which Richard Dickinson has been concerned—*The Directory of Information on the Christian Colleges of India* and *The Christian Colleges and National Development*, it is distinguished by immense industry and by a careful marshalling of all the available facts. The appendixes, bibliography and index are extensive and it is impossible not to admire the meticulous care with which every aspect of the work of the Christian colleges, the place which they hold in the educational system, their positive achievements, their present and future opportunities for service, and their occasional shortcomings have been investigated. The book as a whole is of immense value to all who are concerned with Christian educational work in India, and will no doubt be studied most carefully by all those who, in the Western world, are responsible for its future guidance and direction.

History

HAILEY, A. H. *The Crawley Affair*. 230pp. Seeley, Service, £3.50.

A. H. Hailey's lucid and well-constructed narrative illuminates the social and political conditions prevailing in the British of the 1880s. Briefly, the Commanding Officer of the 4th Inniskilling Dragoons, then stationed at Ahmadnagar in India, "got across" certain officers and NCOs of the regiment, which was already in a somewhat unhappy condition. His actions, and, in particular, the sudden and unexpected death of an NCO when under arrest, were brought to the notice of the British public by the pertinacious refusal of one of the men concerned to submit to what seemed to him unfair treatment. The upshot was a *cause célèbre*, the court-martialing of the Commanding Officer, Colonel Crawford, and his final acquittal. Justice, if rather rough and illogical justice, triumphed in the end. Many interesting sidelights emerge: the system of purchasing commissions did not prevent prize soldiers from attaining gazetted rank even in crack regiments on the whole it worked not too badly. The "good old Duke of Cambridge" again emerges as a capable and honest head of the Army. A lone voice with a plausible grievance could make itself heard by pertinacity then, as now.

Horticulture

ROGGE, H. G. WYTHAM. *Dictionary of Annual Plants*. 184pp. Newton: Abbot: David and Charles, £2.25.

Here the grower of annuals will find rather more than the title indicates. For the first seven chapters are a practical guide to their general cultivation, soil, control, and growing flowers for exhibition or house decoration. The alphabetical list which follows comprises a wide range of such plants, with notes on the origin of their names, their special treatment, and the best conditions for growing them.

Literature and Criticism

Under the *Outing Glass*. A Lewis Carroll Miscellany. Edited by R. B. Shaberman and Denis Cruick. 88pp. Mugpie Press, £1.05.

This pleasant little "unbirthday present for all Carrollians," as its editors R. B. Shaberman and Denis Cruick describe it, is the first attempt to

celebrate the centenary of *Through the Looking-Glass* which was published late in December 1871 but dated 1872. It is an essential item in any Carroll collection since it contains the first publication of a poem attributed to him, "Who Killed Cock Robin?", a parody of the old nursery song adapted to the First Boer War and (if indeed by Dodgson) his only surviving political verses, other than those with an Oxford setting. It also contains the first reprint of Dodgson's "Prospectus" for his Symbolic Logic and of "Dr Achard's Tommy", and reproduces a Du Maurier cartoon from *Punch* (Jan 3, 1874) based on a remark made by one of Dodgson's nephews. There are also some useful additions to *The Lewis Carroll Handbook* concerning various editions of *Rhyme and Reason* and the alterations made to "Bruno's Revenge" when incorporated in *Through the Looking-Glass* with Farringford, contradicting the more likely assumption that the Garden of Live Flowers and the subsequent railway journey were inspired by Dodgson's visit to Alice Liddell and her sisters at Charlton Kings and their subsequent return to Oxford. The most interesting (and most controversial) of the pieces written for this volume is "Which Dreamed it?" A Study of Carroll's Dualism, illustrated by his Writings by Mr Shaberman: the arguments for "an inner conflict" are stimulating, though seldom convincing.

Politics

MEHROTRA, S. R. *The Emergence of the Indian National Congress*. 461pp. Delhi: Vikas.

S. R. Mehrotra explains that when he began to work upon the history of the Indian National Congress it occurred to him that the emergence of such an organization argued a fairly advanced stage of political development. Accordingly, before embarking upon the main work, he has found it necessary to investigate how and by what means this stage was reached. This book is the result, and even though it is in the nature of a prolegomenon, it contrives to elucidate the question of exactly what forces combined to bring about the emergence of the Congress itself. It was in many respects an expression of the discontent of many people—Indian intellectuals, British businessmen, Anglo-Indians, enlightened public servants—with certain aspects of British rule and administration. Political change was widely desired. Should it be sought through the old Indian remedy of violent revolt, or through the process of orderly advance to responsible self-government? This excellent study shows just why the latter alternative, of which the Indian National Congress came to be the expression, ultimately gained the day, although the former never wholly lost its appeal in some quarters.

Military History

AIKEN, ALEX. *Courage Past. A Duty Done*. 159pp. Glasgow: Alex Aiken, £2.

This book contains a graphic and carefully documented account of the experiences of a battalion of The Glasgow Highlanders on the Somme in 1916 and deals mainly with the hard fighting for High Wood, which should be of particular interest to past members of The Highland Light Infantry. The remainder is somewhat unimpressive and disappointing. One could wish that the author in his preface had been a little less patronizing to his late uncle, a central figure in most of the story which he says he has written because he felt a sense of duty towards him.

HARRIS, HENRY. *The Royal Irish Fusiliers*. 171pp. Leo Cooper, £3.15.

The standard of "Famous Regiments", edited by Sir Brian Horrocks, has been so consistently high that one is tempted to rate each new volume as the best. This short and very readable history of the "Fusiliers" is no exception and the present Irish tragedy lends it additional poignancy. It is well to be reminded that during the First World War more than half a million Irishmen served in the British Army, maintaining no fewer than 80 battalions, this regiment alone losing 3,181 dead and having 15,000 wounded. This book can be confidently recommended to the general reader as well as to all Irish Fusiliers.

Music

CIDWORTH, CHARLES. *Handel*. 112pp. Clive Bingley, £1.75.

Handel's *Crab* is a "Concert for the Companion" series, this book on Handel is excellent in every respect except the name of the series to which it belongs, which is misleading. They are books for librarians not connoisseurs, and this one by Charles Caldwell, himself a librarian, is written lucidly and fluently. On the bibliographical side he is, as one would expect, up to date, and his list of available editions beginning with Chrysander is valuable (to scholars if not to concert-goers). Another useful feature is a discography provided by Brian Redfern.

Natural History

ROMANOSKI, HENRI. *Evolution of the Fishes*. 192pp. Oak Tree Press, £3.

In the brief text some indication is given of the main groups of fish, with notes on poisonous and edible

mushrooms and some recipes. The main part of the volume consists of 160 beautiful colour plates illustrating members of the Acanthopterygii, Bichthyopterygii. The work of J. Chenaouis and A. Luczay with seven other artists shows some individuality but all have paid careful attention to texture and detail and the delicate spore-bearing parts. Painted from fresh material the colours vary from the scarlet of the *Amanitas*—which adorn the dust-cover—through a range of brilliant tones to the delicate flesh-pink of the *Lactarias*. A series of line diagrams illustrating spores and some component parts of the fruiting bodies will facilitate identification.

Politics

MEHROTRA, S. R. *The Emergence of the Indian National Congress*. 461pp. Delhi: Vikas.

S. R. Mehrotra explains that when he began to work upon the history of the Indian National Congress it occurred to him that the emergence of such an organization argued a fairly advanced stage of political development. Accordingly, before embarking upon the main work, he has found it necessary to investigate how and by what means this stage was reached. This book is the result, and even though it is in the nature of a prolegomenon, it contrives to elucidate the question of exactly what forces combined to bring about the emergence of the Congress itself. It was in many respects an expression of the discontent of many people—Indian intellectuals, British businessmen, Anglo-Indians, enlightened public servants—with certain aspects of British rule and administration. Political change was widely desired. Should it be sought through the old Indian remedy of violent revolt, or through the process of orderly advance to responsible self-government? This excellent study shows just why the latter alternative, of which the Indian National Congress came to be the expression, ultimately gained the day, although the former never wholly lost its appeal in some quarters.

Railways

HASTINGS, PAUL. *Railroads. An International History*. 144pp. Benn, £1.50.

A briskly written and attractively presented survey in which the sections on railway building problems in India and Russia are particularly enjoyable. A round of applause for the illustrations which are not the ones seen in countless other railway sagas and a slight frown for the author's remark that Gresley's famous Pacific locomotives and the GWR Castles were introduced in the 1930s; surely, ten years earlier.

MARSHALL, JOHN. *The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway*. Volume 3. 293pp. Newton Abbot: David and Charles, £3.50.

This is the third and final volume in John Marshall's history of the Lancashire and Yorkshire and is devoted to a survey of the locomotives and rolling stock. The section concerned with the locomotives of George Hughes will please those who liked his engines: there was something about his design which inspired affection. The famous "Crabs" may have been only mixed traffic engines but they had rakish lines and a look of suppressed power that always caught the eye. They lasted, too.

Travel and Topography

PILKINGTON, ROGER. *Small Boat on the Upper Rhine*. 210pp. Macmillan, £3.

DOERFLINGER, FREDERIC. *Slow Boat Through Pennine Waters*. 254pp. Allan Wingate, £2.25.

CLARKE, D. H. *East Coast Passage*. 223pp. Longman, £2.50.

Nicholson's Guides to the Waterways. Volume 1: South East. Edited by Paul Atterbury. 160pp. Newton Abbot: David and Charles for British Waterways Board, £2.25.

There could be no clearer reminder of the different approach to inland waterways in Britain and on the Continent than Roger Pilkington's and

Frederic Doerflinger's books, produced by Pilkington, having recorded voyages of Thames Commodore with wit and easy anecdote, describe a journey along a busy European highway. Mr Doerflinger (for his script) has an equally felicitous touch; but his is an adventure in the past, through little-known canals and rivers.

If Mr Doerflinger draws attention to the unimagined official attitude to Britain's waterways—which are increasing importance for leisure, as well as a part of the country's industrial heritage—he will have formed a valuable service. Certainly, his book, like Dr Pilkington's, is a happy combination of the book and the narrative. Both give their readers an account of a journey itself, and its difficulties, enough information about the journey itself, and its difficulties, to give their accounts an essential practical purpose. Mr Doerflinger's principal aim is to introduce to enthusiasts, experienced and inexperienced, the waterways of Britain's northern waterways.

In *East Coast Passage* D. H. Clarke describes the passage from the river to the Stour in a Thames salubrious—a formidable undertaking for a man, his wife, and a young son requiring a good deal more than the usual holiday boatman to cut, and go sightseeing as well as safely. The volume gives considerable value.

NICHOLSON, NORMAN. *Portrait of a Lake*. 190pp plus 25 plates. Robert Hale, £2.

Norman Nicholson's intimate description of his native Lakeland contributed to the "Portrait" series of regional books in 1963, was reviewed in these columns in December 19 of that year. It is now reviewed in a second edition.

RUSSELL, RONALD. *Lost Canals of England and Wales*. 272pp. Newton Abbot: David and Charles, £2.50.

As more and more people discover the canals, it is likely to be reminding that some have vanished into history. Ronald Russell has produced a reference book for the enthusiast, a browse in. He has included, for a detailed canal, not merely a brief history and description, but a reference to the appropriate Ordnance Survey map sheet. The canals described, from navigation, cover the whole country. The work is admirably well

World Affairs

SUKHWAL, B. L. *India. A Political Geography*. 288pp. Bombay: Allied Publishers, Rs 45.

This very comprehensive study of the geopolitical factors which shape modern India, although armed with plenty of maps and statistical data, presents few difficulties to the specialist reader. It is, in fact, a compact and very serviceable handbook which can be consulted by those who wish to understand the problems, social, political and geographical, which together make up the world's largest democracy. It is among present-day national studies, historical and the physical setting are clearly and resources, the political scene, and the patterns of social and centrifugal forces, are lucidly explained. Its treatment of the internal problems of his country is commendably detached; it is when he comes to treat of (Indo-)Pakistani relations that he is less detached. In dealing with the latter he makes mention of Neville Maxwell's hitting account of India's hopes with China, which administered a shock to Indian susceptibilities. It is a point of view which Pakistans would not like to see. Even so, it is a very good book.

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Finland	Dfl.65		
Poland	\$7.28		
Czechoslovakia	11.000 Lire		
Yugoslavia	Yfr. 650		
Greece	\$15.80		
Turkey	Kr.128		
Portugal	Esc.510		
South Africa	R.13.00		
India	Pes.1,250		
Pakistan	Kr.93		
Bangladesh	Fr.75.00		
Sri Lanka	\$18.00		
(Air Freight)	\$21.00		
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